



BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA

## A PROCLAMATION

### TOYS FOR TOTS DAY

- WHEREAS: Toys for Tots began in 1947 when Major Bill Hendricks of the United States Marine Corps Reserve and a group of Marine Reservists in Los Angeles collected and distributed 5,000 toys to children; and
- WHEREAS: Major Hendricks' 1947 campaign was so successful that the Marine Corps adopted Toys for Tots the following year, expanding the initiative into a nationwide campaign; and
- WHEREAS: In 1948, the Marine Corps conducted Toys for Tots campaigns at Marine Reserve Centers across the country. Since then, the United States Marine Corps has conducted successful nationwide campaigns during the holiday season. Their initial objective, which remains the hallmark of the program today, is to "bring the joy of Christmas to America's needy children"; and
- WHEREAS: Toys for Tots plays an active role in the development of our nation's most valuable resource – our children – by helping needy children throughout the country experience the joy of Christmas, uniting all members of local communities in a common cause for three months each year during the annual toy collection and distribution campaign, and contributing to the improvement of communities for generations to come; and
- WHEREAS: More than 9 million toys have been donated by Georgians since 2000. The State of Georgia commends Toys for Tots as it celebrates its 70th anniversary of making Christmas brighter for needy children; now
- THEREFORE: I, NATHAN DEAL, Governor of the State of Georgia, do hereby proclaim November 8, 2017, as TOYS FOR TOTS DAY in Georgia.

In witness thereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the Executive Department to be affixed this 24<sup>th</sup> day of October in the year of our Lord two thousand seventeen.



*Nathan Deal*

GOVERNOR

ATTEST

*Chris W. Riley*

CHIEF OF STAFF